

Florida Grand Opera Announces Casting Change



Returning FGO Artist Steps into the Role of Oroveso

MIAMI – January 7, 2016 – Florida Grand Opera (FGO) is pleased to announce that bass-baritone Craig Colclough is to perform the role of Oroveso in all performances of the company’s production of Bellini’s *Norma*.

Craig Colclough began his career at the Los Angeles Opera. After two seasons appearing with the company in various roles, Mr. Colclough joined Florida Grand Opera’s Young Artist Program, from which he graduated in 2012. Most recently Mr. Colclough triumphed in his European debut at the English National Opera as Jack Rance in *La fanciulla del West*, Figaro in *Le nozze di Figaro* with the Atlanta Opera, the title role in *Falstaff* with Wolf Trap Opera, Timur in *Turandot* conducted by Gustavo Dudamel with the Simon Bolivar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela, and Simone in Woody Allen’s acclaimed production of *Gianni Schicchi* with Los Angeles Opera, sharing the stage with Placido Domingo.

“For any opera company, the greatest thrill is to see one of our Young Artists graduate from our program and take the world by storm,” said Philip Pierce, Director of Artistic Administration at FGO.

“We could not be more thrilled that Mr. Colclough, who is now in high demand by opera companies across the world, has agreed to come back to FGO and share his talent once more with our audience,” Pierce continued. “Those who knew him before will delight in discovering how his artistry has grown, and those who discover him for the first time will be won over by his impassioned interpretation of the role, and his magnificent voice.”

After his performances in FGO’s *Norma*, which will take place January 23–February 13, Mr. Colclough will reprise the title role in *Falstaff* with Arizona Opera and will

return to English National Opera for his role debut of Kurwenal in *Tristan und Isolde*. On the concert stage, he makes his debut during the 2015-16 season with the Los Angeles Philharmonic as Dottore Grenvil in *La traviata*. The role of Oroveso was slated to be performed by Burak Bilgili, who withdrew from the production.

ABOUT NORMA

PLOT SUMMARY | *Norma*

The opera tells the story of a clandestine love affair bringing two extreme enemies together during a time of war. But when Norma discovers that her beloved now loves another, an impassioned new battle begins as betrayal, torment, and ferocity take the reins.

SCHEDULE | *Norma*

Sung without amplification in Italian with projected translations in English and Spanish

MIAMI ■ **Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County / Ziff Ballet Opera House** January 23, 24, 26, 29, 30, 2016

FORT LAUDERDALE ■ **Broward Center for the Performing Arts / Au-Rene Theater** February 11, 13, 2016

TICKETS | *Norma*

Adrienne Arsht Center: \$12-250

Broward Center: \$21-250

You can order opera tickets securely online at www.FGO.org, or by calling our Box Office at 800-741-1010, Monday–Friday, 10am–4pm.

CAST | *Norma*



FGO's production will feature a number of artists making their debuts with the company. The notoriously demanding title role will be shared by Russian soprano Mlada Khudoley (Jan 23, 30, Feb 11, 13) and American soprano Mary Elizabeth Williams (Jan 24, 26, 29), both of whom will be making their FGO debut. Praised by the New York Times for her "lush, sizable and luminous voice," Khudoley has performed with the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, *The Royal Opera House Covent Garden*, *The Bavarian State Opera in Munich*, and *the Bregenz Festival*.

Commended by the Washington Times for being "a wonderful presence on stage, at once regal and human," Williams has been receiving fervent and consistent acclaim from audiences and critics alike for her signature dramatic coloratura and lirico-spinto soprano roles. She has appeared with the Seattle Opera, the Dallas Opera,

and the Welsh National Opera.

The role of Pollione will be shared by tenors Giancarlo Monsalve (Jan 23, 30, Feb 11, 13) and Frank Poretta (Jan 24, 26, 29). Monsalve, a Chilean tenor, has been called “an unbeatable advantage for many theaters” by Opera News and has been enjoying a thriving global career.

Named a “standout” by South Florida Classical Review, mezzo-soprano Dana Beth Miller returns to FGO in the role of Adalagisa (Jan 23, 24, 26) after her critically-acclaimed performance as Maddalena in *Rigoletto*. Catherine Martin will share the role of Adalagisa (Jan 29, 30, Feb 11, 13) in her FGO debut.

Conductor Anthony Barrese will return to South Florida after his critically-acclaimed performances of *The Pearl Fishers* last season, having received accolades from The Miami Herald, ConcertoNet.com, and the Sun Sentinel.

Norma	.....	Mlada Khudoley ♦
	.....	Jan 23, 30, Feb 11, 13
	.....	Mary Elizabeth Williams ♦
	.....	Jan 24, 26, 29
Adalgisa	.....	Dana Beth Miller
	.....	Jan 23, 24, 26
	.....	Catherine Martin ♦
	.....	Jan 29, 30, Feb 11, 13
Pollione	.....	Giancarlo Monsalve ♦
	.....	Jan 23, 30, Feb 11, 13
	.....	Frank Porretta
	.....	Jan 24, 26, 29
Oroveso	.....	Craig Colclough
Conductor	.....	Anthony Barrese
Director	.....	Nic Muni ♦
Production	.....	Cincinnati Opera

♦ = FGO Debut

FLORIDA GRAND **opera**

About Florida Grand Opera

Florida Grand Opera (FGO), the oldest performing arts organization in Florida, celebrates its 75th year of continuously producing grand opera during the 2015-16 Season. The mainstage operas of the season include: Rossini’s *The Barber of Seville* (November 14–December 5, 2015), Bellini’s *Norma* (January 23–February 11, 2016), Weinberg’s *The Passenger* (April 2–9, 2016), and Donizetti’s *Don Pasquale* (May 7–14, 2016).

FGO is now asking all those who enjoy and support grand opera in South Florida to

make their gifts or pledge today. For more information, or to make a pledge please contact Individual Giving Officer Carlton Ford at cford@fgo.org or call 305.403.3320.

Founded in 1941 as Greater Miami Opera and later merging with The Opera Guild Inc. in 1994, FGO presents a mixture of standard repertoire and contemporary works as well as commissions and new productions – all featuring projected translations in English and Spanish. FGO is recognized for funding by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Funding is also provided, in part, by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor and the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council. Program support is provided by the City of Miami Beach, Cultural Affairs Program, and Cultural Arts Council. Florida Grand Opera is a Resident Company of the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County and a member company of OPERA America. Intercontinental Miami is the Official Hotel and Steinway & Sons is the Official Piano of Florida Grand Opera.

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